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INFORMANT: GUY FROMAN, PEORIA
INTERVIEWED BY: PEGGY DYCUS
INTERVIEW DATE: MAY 17, 1969
TRANSCRIBED BY: PEGGY DYCUS

(Start out by telling your name and your tribe and a little bit about yourself.)

Oh, well, I'm Guy Froman. I'm a member of the Peoria tribe. I was elected chief of the tribe in 1947. And I have held this office up to the present time.

EARLY HISTORY OF PEORIA TRIBE

Our tribe, the Peoria tribe, originated in Illinois. It was at one time a fairly large tribe, but during wars with the other tribes, it was reduced to a small number. And in about 1832, they was moved from Illinois to a reservation in Kansas, around Peoria...Paoli. And while in Kansas, there were three other smaller tribes--the Piankashaws, the Weas, and the Kaskaskias. They were united by a treaty with the government in 1854. They wanted to be recognized as one tribe. At first, they were referred to as the Confederate Tribes, and they went through all the various names, and finally, they shortened it to just the Peoria tribe. But, in fact, the tribe today is composed of not only Peorias, but of Weas, the Piankashawa, and the Kaskaskias. When our claims against the government came up, oh, I guess it was back in '47, '48, we had to prove that our tribe had living members of each tribe that was mentioned, which we did. But, in 1854, after that, they was moved to Oklahoma and was allotted a reservation just east of Miami. Oh, it was about, little over two miles wide from the Missouri border, west to what we would say would be the Neosho River. This allotment--- When we were united